

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 30, 2011

## **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Molly Deuberry
Director of Communications/Department of Public Works
molly.deuberry@indy.gov; **C**: (317) 677-6469

## CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS TEAMS UP TO CLEAN WHITE RIVER

Hundreds of local volunteers & organizations to remove tons of trash and debris from the White River

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW) is teaming up with Friends of the White River and hundreds of local citizens to clean up tons of trash and debris from the White River today.

"The City is proud to be involved with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual White River Cleanup," says Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard. "As a part of the month long, city-wide 2011 Great Indy Cleanup, removing tons of trash and debris from the White River will make a big impact on our city."

"It's so important that we all take an active role in the cleanliness of our natural resources, like the White River, which is an asset for our great city," Ballard continued.

Hundreds of volunteers will begin working on both sides of the river at 8 a.m. on Saturday. Volunteers will clean areas near Morris Street, Raymond Street and White River Parkway. Work will continue until noon, removing items such as tires and household waste from the banks of the White River.

This annual event has removed over 1.5 million tons of trash and debris from the banks of the White River. This year, it is expected that volunteers will remove over 14 tons of trash in one day.

The first 200 pre-registered volunteers will receive free t-shirts and lunch, made possible by generous donors. Chipotle, Crittur.com, Friends of the White River, Greenways Foundation, Heritage Environmental Services, RebuildIndy, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Nuvo, United Water & SustainIndy are all sponsoring the event. DPW Deputy Director Stephen Nielsen will offer thanks to volunteers at the lunch, on behalf of DPW.

For more information on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual White River Cleanup, please visit <u>www.friendsofwhiteriver.org</u>.